

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a method and an apparatus for the milling of freeform surfaces.

A workpiece is milled by a tool of the milling machine in such a manner that a desired freeform surface arises. For this purpose, the tool is moved relative to the workpiece along at least one tool path defined via support points.

According to the invention, the support points of the or each tool path are defined either in workpiece coordinates or in machine coordinates. For each tool path, at least one spline is produced in connection with the support points. The or each spline is output to a control arrangement of the milling machine, whereby the control arrangement controls the motion of the tool along the or each tool path on the basis of the or each corresponding spline (Fig. 1).